

PRESIDENT HAS THE TREATY

OUR PEACE COMMISSIONERS ARRIVE SAFELY AT HOME.

SOME COMMENTS BY MEMBERS

Party Landed at New York and Started Immediately for Washington. Judge Day in Canton.

Judge William R. Day, Senator C. K. Davis, Senator George Gray, Senator W. P. Frye and Whitelaw Reid, the United States commissioners to arrange a peace treaty with Spain, reached New York Saturday on board the steamer St. Louis.

Holding that the rule governing their diplomatic mission is still in force, none of the gentlemen named would speak at length regarding the work at Paris. They took the first train to Washington, carrying the treaty of peace with them. J. Bassett Moore, secretary and consul of the commission, and Arthur W. Ferguson, translator, were with the commissioners.

Mr. Reid said he and his fellow commissioners were very glad to get back, but they could not discuss the treaty.

"We are going to Washington by the first train we can get," he said, "and shall report immediately to the president. It was understood among us that we should say nothing about our official business when we arrived. When the treaty was signed it became an official document, and it must be left for the senate of the United States and the president to decide what shall be done with it."

Mr. Reid would not discuss the public translation of what purported to be the text of the treaty, nor would he say anything about Montero Rios' recent criticism of the examination.

"As a newspaper man, I should like to talk," he said, "but as I am a public official, I cannot."

Senator Gray, the only democrat on the commission, was told of W. J. Bryan's recently declared attitude on the question of expansion.

"Um," said the senator, "I am not on to Colonel Bryan's curves yet."

The senator admitted that he had an opinion concerning the expansion question.

"I have no doubt," said he, "that there is a sober, thoughtful opinion in this country against expansion—there must be. The treaty merely gives us control of the situation; we can do as we please. We can keep the Philippines or not, as may be determined in the future."

Senator Frye said:

"At the opening of the session in Paris the Spaniards first wanted us to get out of the United States. That we refused to do. Then came a squabble about the Cuban debt. We were not inclined to pay that, and after a hard fight of days and days our opponents finally yielded to our claims and signed the treaty, which I have no doubt will be ratified by congress."

Treaty Delivered to President.

The commission arrived in Washington Saturday night and immediately delivered the treaty to President McKinley.

Judge Day in Canton.

Judge Day and Mrs. Day left Washington Saturday night and reached their Canton home in time to take Christmas dinner with the family. They arrived at 10:15 o'clock Sunday morning over the Pennsylvania road.

Judge Day, when asked as to his plans for the future, said he expects to remain in Canton and resume the practice of law in the firm of which he was a member before entering the cabinet of President McKinley. The work of the commission ended when the treaty was delivered to the president, and he does not expect to visit Washington again in connection with any duties of that commission.

While he talked freely on many matters connected with his work in Paris, Judge Day did not feel at liberty to give an interview in detail on the work of the commission. He said the talk of \$100,000 compensation for the commissioners, or of any sum approaching that amount, was ridiculous and preposterous. The president fixes the compensation of the commissioners, and none of them, it is safe to say, accepted the duties as a speculation.

PRESIDENT SIGNS BILLS

Which Were Passed at the Present Session of the Congress.

The president signed the following bills Wednesday:

Providing for a national exposition in Philadelphia in 1899 and appropriating therefor.

Amending the laws relating to American protection of such commerce.

It is too late to amend the United States Statutes re-should be for its consul generals, and for its consul and commercial purposes.

BRYAN WELCOMED HOME.

Colonel Makes a Speech in Opposition to Expansion.

Colonel W. J. Bryan returned to Lincoln, Neb., Friday afternoon and was tendered a reception at the Oliver theater in the evening by the Woman's Bimetallic League.

The house was crowded and Colonel Bryan received an ovation. He was introduced by Governor Holcomb, who formally welcomed him home and complimented him for his patriotism in enlisting in the army.

After thanking his neighbors for their cordial welcome and complimenting the members of regiment and Colonel Viquain, in whose charge he left them, he justified his resignation as follows:

"I had five months of peace in the army, and resigned in order to take part in a fight. I am as much interested in the people of the United States as I am in the people of Cuba, and unless I am mistaken in judging, we are called upon to meet more important problems in the United States just now than will confront our army in Cuba."

"Some of these problems were under discussion before hostilities began, others have been thrust upon us as a result of the war. Let me improve this, my first opportunity, to assure you that my zeal for the reforms advocated a few months ago has not in the least abated. Vital questions cannot be killed or buried."

The American people have not accepted the gold standard as final. It has wrought more injustice in our country during the last twenty-five years than Spain has wrought in all colonies, and opposition to it will grow until the gold and silver coinage of the constitution is fully restored. The trusts which now flourish in defiance of law are not more merciless than Weyer was, and the new trust—the paper money trust, which is seeking to obtain control of all the paper money of the nation—is a greater menace to the country's welfare than any foreign foe.

"There are, however, two new questions which demand immediate attention, because congress is asked to act upon them at once. The president recommends that the regular army be permanently increased to 100,000 men. This question must be met now or not at all."

Taking up the subject of imperialism, Mr. Bryan said that the president has misinterpreted the sentiment of the people. They are opposed to giving the Philippines back to Spain, but they have not as yet declared in favor of embarking upon a colonial policy. So great a change, he said, could not be undertaken without more investigation and deliberation than the people had yet given to the subject. The principal part of Mr. Bryan's speech was devoted to the Philippine question.

TO SEIZE WAKE ISLAND.

Will Be Used As a Cable Station To Connect Philippines With Hawaii.

A Washington dispatch says: The government has determined to hoist the flag over an island far out in the Pacific ocean and orders have been sent out to the commander of the Bennington, Captain Tansig, to proceed at once to take possession in the name of the United States government, of Wake island, three miles long and lying in latitude 19, north; longitude 166, east. It is distant about 2,000 miles from the Hawaiian island and 1,300 miles east from Guam. It is almost in a direct line between these possessions of the United States and is admirably adapted for use as a station for a Pacific cable to connect the Philippines with Hawaii and the United States.

WEYLER ANXIOUS TO CONTROL.

Sagasta's Illness Has Brought a Halt to the Political Crisis.

A Madrid special says: Senor Sagasta's illness has brought to a standstill the political crisis and the negotiations for the reorganization of the liberal party.

El Liberal publishes an interview with Weyler, in the course of which he is represented as declining to give any information regarding the crisis, but as insisting upon the necessity for a strong government. Such a government could not, he said, be drawn from a party led by Senor Silveira. General Weyler hinted that the country would run great risks unless power were placed in the hands of a Sagasta-Weyler coalition government.

A CHRISTMAS RIOT.

Pitched Battle Between Whites and Blacks in Dallas, Tex.

A special from Dallas, Texas, says: A crowd of several thousand whites and blacks, gathered by the burning of a saloon building, became involved in a race riot Christmas eve, and before the battle was ended two persons had been killed, five were seriously wounded and a dozen others slightly injured.

In addition one man fell dead on the sidewalk during the fire and a woman was fatally injured in jumping from a window of the burning building.

GEORGIA'S SCHOOL FUND.

With Estimated Items Added to Appropriation It Is \$1,397,932.

State School Commissioner Glenn of Georgia has made up the school fund for the year 1899 as follows:

Under the law the fund, for the items estimated, must be based on this year's receipts. Thus the items, hire of convicts, liquor tax, poll tax, tax on shows, fertilizer fees and oil fees, are the same as the present year's receipts from those sources.

The fund apportioned is thus fixed: Ad valorem appropriation...\$ 800,000 Half rental W. & A. R. R. 210,006 Liquor tax, estimated..... 105,659 Net hire convicts..... 13,662 Tax on shows..... 6,000 Georgia railroad stock..... 2,046 Fertilizer fees..... 16,749 Oil fees..... 15,000 Poll tax..... 230,000

\$1,397,932

This year.....\$1,640,381

Decrease.....\$ 242,459

The school population is 660,870 and the per capita school fund will be \$2.10 and 3 mills.

The country counties get less, and the cities more on account of the increase of school population in cities. About thirty country counties will get less than they did under a school fund of \$1,200,000.

LAGRIPE IS EPIDEMIC.

Estimated That There Are 10,000 Mild Cases in Louisville.

It is estimated by the health department of Louisville, Ky., that there are 10,000 cases of grip in that city. The ravages of the disease have been so widespread that in many cases businesses have been seriously impeded. The public schools especially have suffered, many of the teachers having been obliged to abandon their duties on account of sickness.

The state of the weather, which has been wet and foggy for ten days past, is given as the cause of the spread of the disease by physicians.

Grip this year has not been so fatal, however, as it was during the famous epidemic of seven years ago.

An epidemic of grip has struck Columbus, Ohio, and it is estimated that there are several thousand cases. Local physicians all report the malady prevalent in their practice, though not in as severe a form as the epidemic of 1891. Public institutions are severely afflicted.

DESTROYED EVIDENCE.

Standard Oil Company Charged With Burning Its Books.

Developments of a most sensational nature in the Standard oil investigation at Cleveland, O., came to light Wednesday when Attorney General Monnett began taking depositions for the purpose of proving that the Standard Oil company, just previous to the issuance of the order by the superior court that the books of the company be produced in evidence, had destroyed a large number of its books.

Upon the strength of information received by the attorney general from reliable business men and attorneys that it could be proved that the Standard Oil company had burned a lot of its books, journals, ledgers and other valuable books, the state served notice upon the Standard Oil company that depositions would be taken before a notary.

SOLDIERS COMMIT MURDER.

They Fire Into a Crowd Gathered to Do Them Honor.

A Montgomery, Ala., special says: Some soldiers of the First Mississippi regiment of volunteers, who were en route home, after having been mustered out of the service at Columbia, Tenn., committed a cowardly crime in Alabama Wednesday.

As the train was passing through Eutaw, in western Alabama, a number of the men pointed their guns through the windows and fired a fusillade into a party of men, women and children, who had assembled near the track to do honor to the passing through of a body of supposed brave men.

A woman was shot to death, a boy's eye was shot out and others were less seriously hurt. The train was moving at the time and proceeded on into Mississippi. One or two whole companies will be arrested.

Governor Johnston has offered substantial rewards for their arrest.

NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY

Parkakes of Its Ninety-third Annual Dinner in New York.

Over four hundred sons of New England sat down Thursday night to the ninety-third annual dinner of the New England Society of New York, at the Waldorf-Astoria.

President Howland presided and over his chair was the seal of the society, flanked on either side by the American and English flags, while on either side of the flags and at the head of the room were the coats of arms of the New England states. The guests included many men prominent in public and private life.

WILL RELEASE FIFTY REGIMENTS.

Mustering Out Plans Agreed Upon By President and Cabinet.

A Washington special says: The secretary of war and adjutant general have not determined upon any of the regiments to be mustered out under the new order adopted by the president and cabinet Wednesday to discharge 50 volunteer regiments, now in the service, except that the volunteers now in Manila and ordered home will head the list.

Adjutant General Corbin stated Thursday morning that the work of mustering out would be very carefully considered, and that there would be a coming out of the regiments rather than a general discharge of volunteers in certain camps. Those ordered to Cuba, Manila and Porto Rico would not have their orders changed, but would be sent to these places as soon as transportation could be had.

The war department has already been overrun by requests for discharges and mustering out of certain regiments, but these have all been placed on file and will be taken up in order.

One reason for the order to muster out such a large number of volunteers is that it will save the government \$780,000 a month in pay alone. Another reason is that by reducing the size of the army the military service will be composed of about 100,000 men with sufficient force necessary to furnish garrison for Cuba, Porto Rico, the Philippines and the United States.

General Corbin said that the Third Georgia would not be mustered out, but would most certainly go to Neuvas as originally ordered as soon as transports could be furnished them.

SWORD PRESENTED SCHLEY.

The Blade, Scabbard and Belt Cost the Sum of \$4,200.

At Philadelphia Thursday Rear Admiral Schley was the recipient of a handsome and costly sword, scabbard and belt, presented to him in behalf of the people of the city and other citizens in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, who contributed to a fund established for the purpose.

There was a large and enthusiastic audience present and speeches were made by Governor Hastings and Mayor Warwick on behalf of the state and city.

The admiral in accepting the gift, thanked the people and said:

"Let me hope with you that in God's providence it may never be drawn without reason, but if it ever should be so willed that it must be, it will never be sheathed except in your greater honor."

The sword, scabbard and belt represent a cost of \$4,200. The blade is of fine Damascus steel, appropriately engraved, and the hilt is elaborately decorated with diamonds and other precious stones.

BANQUET WINE SEIZED.

New England Society in Charleston Placed in Bad Plight.

State Dispensary constables seized the fine stock of wines imported to Charleston, S. C., for the annual banquet of the New England society, which was given Thursday night.

When the stock was seized the Rev. Dr. Edder, president of the society, appealed to the constables to surrender it, but his request was refused. The situation began to look serious.

Senator McLaurin, who delivered an address at the banquet, was seen and asked to use his influence to get back the liquors. He sent a warm telegram to Governor Ellerbe and advised him to make the constable deliver the goods.

A short while afterwards a telegram from Columbia announced that the wines would be released. Sharp orders were sent the constables, and the wines flowed as usual at the banquet.

BIRD PREVENTS DISASTER.

Train Was Tied Across the Track Intended to Wreck Fast Train.

The northbound passenger train on the International and Great Northern railroad narrowly missed a serious wreck forty miles below Austin, Tex., through the intervention of a bird.

Some miscreant had tied a rail securely across the track. Just a few miles before reaching the spot a bird, blinded by the headlight, flew against the glass, breaking it and extinguishing the light. This necessitated running slowly to the next station.

The train proceeding with greatly reduced speed struck the obstruction, tearing up the track and damaging the engine, but no one was injured.

BOY KILLS TWO MEN.

He protected His Mother's Property With a Shotgun.

Thomas and William Brantley, brothers, were shot and instantly killed Saturday night at Euondale, Miss., a small town on the Mobile and Ohio road, by Eugene Dennis, an 18-year-old boy.

The brothers, accompanied by their father, attempted to enter the store of Dennis, it is said, intending violence. Dennis's mother seized the gun of the elder Brantley and young Dennis opened fire on the Brantleys with the above result.

The trouble is said to have been caused by liquor.

NAVAL MEN REDUKE HOBSON

THEY ALL SAY YOUNG LIEUTENANT IS ACTING INDISCREETLY.

TOO MUCH OSCULATION INDULGED

Secretary Long Advises 'Merrimac Hero' That He Is in Danger of Losing His Reputation.

The Atlanta Journal's special correspondent at Washington wires his paper as follows:

Satan fell from heaven no more rapidly than Lieutenant Hobson has fallen in the esteem of public officials and his fellow officers here. Feeling toward the "hero of the Merrimac" has undergone a complete reversion since the kissing episode began. The resentment felt toward him among the southern contingent here is mingled with pity that such a glory as he won at Santiago should be smirched by his conduct on his tour west.

The navy is in arms in protest of his belittling his deed, and nearly every officer here has denounced his action in terms of bitterness and resentment. To quote one is to quote all. They feel that the esprit de corps of the service has suffered more by his recent conduct west than it has gained by his gallant sacrifice in the harbor of Santiago.

"Up to the present time," said a young lieutenant commander to me, "the heroes of the navy have kept in the background—there has been no vainglorious flaunting of their deeds before the public."

"The modesty of our heroes have been our pride. The whole navy condemned that first kiss up there in Long Island. He should never have permitted himself to be made cheap by a maudlin, idiotic girl. As to his tour and osculatory features in the west, they have lowered us in the eyes of the naval officers of the world."

No naval officer will ever be quoted in criticism of another officer. The esprit de corps prohibits it, but to get the estimation of Hobson one has only to enter the doors of the Army and Navy club. Not one officer palliates the offense. The most intimate friend he has in the service has no excuse to offer for him. The men who feel it most deeply, however, are the southern members of congress.

"Oh, the pity of it!" is their cry, and "pity 'tis true."

I have talked to many democrats, but not one will say a word of criticism for publication. They will tell you privately that they feel a personal injury has been done them. There is hardly one who has not in some public utterance the "Hero of the Merrimac" as a typical southerner. They have placed him side by side with Wheeler and find their idol but clay is a disappointment they do not want to discuss.

Speaker Reed's remark when asked as to his opinion on the matter, said:

"That young man should be sent out of the country. What he needs now most is a salt bath." That was the speaker's laconic way of saying he is too fresh.

It is said here that after the Kansas City reception that Secretary Long wired him to act with more discretion; that he was imperiling his reputation. The secretary has been urged to recall him and administer a rebuke, but the secretary felt that this would be an exaggeration of the prerogative given him, and I am told, though Mr. Long will not discuss it, that he took the gentler course of appealing to his pride.

His fellow officers say that it is due to Long's telegram that there was no repetition of the kissing scenes in Denver Tuesday night.

His conduct is inexplicable to some, in light of past events. It has come to my knowledge, and I can vouch for the truth of it, that Hobson refused an offer of fifty thousand dollars to go on a limited lecturing tour, giving as his reason for so doing that to turn his deed into money would be to belittle it. It will be hard to strike a trial balance of his character, both sides of the ledger being carefully considered and added up.

TO PROCEED TO CUBA.

General Sanger, at Columbus, Ga., Gets Orders to Move at Once.

Late Thursday afternoon General Sanger, division commander at Columbus, Ga., received orders from Washington to proceed at once with his brigade staff and regiment to Charleston, S. C., where he would take the transport Manitoba and sail at once for Matanzas. The telegram caused more or less of a flurry in local army circles. General Sanger at once consulted with officers of the division and it was finally decided to take the Twelfth New York regiment, which is now located at Americus.